



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
15 October 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session

Second Committee

Agenda item 84 (c)

Macroeconomic policy questions:

science and technology for development

Venezuela: * draft resolution

Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Convinced that recent technological innovations during the past two decades in the field of biotechnology have created new opportunities, inter alia, in agriculture, livestock and aquaculture, improved human health and enhanced protection of the environment, and recalling the interest of the international community in promoting this new knowledge for the benefit of all humankind,

Stressing that international cooperation, including North-South as well as South-South cooperation, is an important element that offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustainable development, and for ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the emerging global economic system,

Recognizing the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development in the field of environmentally sound management of biotechnology,

Recalling that intergovernmental cooperation in science and technology is an important tool to enhance international cooperation and, in this context, Agenda 21 recognized the potential of biotechnology to contribute to sustainable development,

Recalling also the recommendations, in particular paragraph 42, of the plan of implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002.¹

1. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Chile to host the Biotechnology World Forum, which is to be held in Concepción, Chile, in December

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

¹ A/CONF.199/20, chap. I.2.



2003, and the preparatory work for the Forum carried out under the auspices of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

2. *Stresses* the importance of facilitating access and transfer of knowledge and technology based on concessional, preferential and favourable terms to the developing countries, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the necessities of developing countries, with the objective of enhancing their technological capacities, productivity and competitiveness in the world market;

3. *Encourages* the active participation of Member States, all relevant entities of the United Nations system, business and private sector representatives and other relevant stakeholders in the Biotechnology World Forum, in accordance with the rules of procedure governing meetings of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

4. *Invites* all parties that are in a position to do so to provide financial support to enable the participation of experts and representatives from developing countries in the Biotechnology World Forum;

5. *Requests* the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to provide a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the outcome of the Biotechnology World Forum, including, in cooperation with the secretariats of other relevant international organizations and conventions, recommendations and assessment actions to contribute to the identification of recommendations and assessments on initiatives, and to encourage international cooperation in meeting the objectives of chapter 16 of Agenda 21² in the field of biotechnology.

² *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.L.8 and corrigenda), vol. I; *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.